Other (Federal) Bridge Permit (Section 9 Permit)

What Activities Require This Permit? Construction of a new bridge or causeway, or reconstruction or modification of an existing bridge or causeway across navigable waters of the United States. This includes all temporary bridges used for construction access or traffic detour.

What Is The Purpose of This Permit? The purpose of the Bridge Permit is to preserve the public right of navigation and to prevent interference with interstate and foreign commerce. The General Bridge Act of 1946, as amended, the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended, and the Act of March 23, 1906, as amended, all require that the location and plans of bridges and causeways across the navigable waters of the United States be submitted to and approved by the Secretary of Transportation prior to construction. The General Bridge Act of 1946 is cited as the legislative authority for bridge construction in most cases.

Who Issues This Permit? The U.S. Coast Guard.

How Much Will This Permit Cost? No fee.

Where Can I Get The Application For This Permit? http://www.uscq.mil/hq/cq5/cq551/BPAG Page.asp

How Long Will It Take To Review My Application? Varies according to the project type.

Where Do I Submit My Application?

To the appropriate U.S. Coast Guard District bridge administration staff. See the following link for contact information: http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/District_Page.asp

How Long Is My Permit or License or Certificate Valid?

Coast Guard bridge permits specify that the permit becomes null and void unless construction of the bridge is commenced and completed by certain dates. This time period is usually three years and five years, respectively, from the date of the permit. The applicant may request longer time periods.

Notes/Comments: There is a mandatory 30-day public comment period. A bridge permit is the written approval of the location and plans of the bridge or causeway to be constructed or modified. Federal law prohibits the construction of these structures unless the Coast Guard first authorizes them.

Legal Authority/Statute Reference: http://www.uscq.mil/hq/cq5/cq551/Regulation.asp

Links: http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/default.asp
http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg551/BPAG
Page-asp

Statewide Contact Information:

Commander, Fifth Coast Guard District (dpb) LANTAREA Federal Building 431 Crawford Street Portsmouth, VA 23704-5004 Telephone: (757) 398-6222